GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1524
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2016
Storage and Destruction of Contraband Drugs
Singh Shri Bhola

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has made critical observation about the situation of drug menace in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the enforcement agencies have also come under criticism for its nexus with drug lords and irregularities in storage and destruction of contraband drugs;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto; and

(e) the corrective steps proposed in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) : Yes Madam.The Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of Union Of India Vs. Mohanlal (Crl. Appeal No. 652 of 2012) has made critical observations over drug menace and pilferage/recirculation of seized drugs in the country.
The corrective steps to curb the drug menace in the country are as follows:
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a) Strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points.
b) Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes.
c) Special efforts to deal drug trafficking by Internet Pharmacy, Methamphetamine Labs, Courier parcels etc.
d) Destruction of seized drugs as per the provisions of the relevant Act/Rules/Notifications.
e) Destruction operations are regularly launched with additional support of Satellite imagery, to detect illicit cultivation of opium poppy and Cannabis in remote mountainous regions in Northern, Eastern and North Eastern India.
f) Strengthening of State's anti-narcotics units.
g) Better intelligence network and sharing of information with neighbouring countries.
(c), (d) & (e):The Hon'ble Supreme Court has observed that there was no credible protection against the theft, replacement, pilferage and destruction. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has also expressed its concern over the low percentage of destruction/disposal of the seized drugs. It has observed lack of adequate steps interalia by the enforcement agencies for providing proper storage facilities with proper system of supervision and control over the stored drugs.
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The following corrective steps are taken in this regard:
1. Periodical inspection of malkhanas.
2. Active destruction/disposal of the seized drugs as per the G.S.R. notification 339(E) dated 10.5.2007 and G.S.R. 38(E) dated 16.01.2015.
3. Sensitization of the field staff regarding guidelines of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

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